Regimental Command Sergeant Major

Command Sergeant Major James F. Barrett

I continue to receive positive comments from soldiers and leaders of our great Regiment about our professional bulletin. Once again, I would like to applaud the dedication and professionalism of the folks on the bulletin staff. An increasing number of units from the Regiment are contributing photographs and articles detailing the outstanding accomplish ments and contributions of our soldiers.

I don't have to tell you that we have been decisively engaged around the world since before the beginning of Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. As we move swiftly into 2004, military police soldiers continue to maintain an operational tempo that is unparalleled in our Regiment's history. They are in higher demand than at any time in our nation's past. In spite of our operational commitments at home and abroad, our Active and Reserve Component military police, corrections, and Criminal Investigation Division (CID) soldiers maintain the values, traditions, and standards that make us the "Force of Choice."

I am amazed and pleased that despite our operational tempo, many of our noncommissioned officers and their soldiers still find time to actively pursue professional development opportunities. They are enrolled in the Army Correspondence Course Program, online college courses, and nonresident Noncommissioned Officer Educational System courses. Military police men and women continue to win soldier and noncommissioned officer competitions in almost every category throughout the Army. They represent the pinnacle of professionalism and are a shining example of Warrior Ethos.

As I have said before, we must contend with increased force protection requirements at home while meeting our arduous deployment requirements to multiple overseas theaters. Here at the home of our Regiment, we have begun a process to convert two thousand field artillery soldiers in order to meet those operational requirements. These new members of our Regiment have met the same entrance standards and are receiving the same intense training as any other military police soldiers. There is no doubt in my mind that these outstanding soldiers will continue to exceed our expectations.

Since 11 September 2001, we have lost sixty-eight of our military police soldiers—some to accidents or illness, but others have made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of this nation. The families, friends, and comrades of these great warriors are always in my thoughts and prayers. They will truly be missed. I ask that all of you take a moment to remember the brothers and sisters, husbands and wives, sons and daughters, and friends of our Regiment who gave their last full measure defending our nation and our way of life. I have never been more proud of our soldiers, noncommissioned officers, and officers.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our soldiers, family members, retirees, and civilians for their outstanding dedication and support to our great Regiment. I wish all of you the very best in things to come.

Of the Troops! For the Troops!